

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 6, 8, 9, 14, and 16 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter. Please amend Claims 11 to 13 and 15, and add new Claims 17 and 18, as shown below.

1 to 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Withdrawn) A method of producing a probe medium that contains a probe capable of specifically binding to a target substance, comprising the steps of:

dissolving the probe in a solvent in which the probe is soluble;

separating the probe from the solvent by acting on the solvent a substance for solubilizing the probe in an organic solvent; and

dissolving the probe in the organic solvent by adding the organic solvent to the probe.

11. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) [[A]] The method of producing the probe medium according to claim 10, wherein an amount of the substance for solubilizing the probe in the organic solvent is acted adjusted on a basis of a product between a length of the probe and a mole number of the probe.

12. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method of producing the probe medium according to claim 10, wherein an amount of the substance for solubilizing the

probe in the organic solvent is ~~acted~~ adjusted on a basis of an amount of the probe separated from the solvent.

13. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method of immobilizing a probe on a substrate, the probe being capable of specifically binding to a target substance, said method comprising the steps of:

preparing a probe medium comprising (i) the probe, (ii) an organic solvent comprising a coupling agent for coupling the probe to the substrate, and (iii) a substance for solubilizing the probe in the organic solvent; and

providing the probe medium of claim 1 on [[a]] the substrate by spotting, wherein the coupling agent comprises silane.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~probe medium~~ method according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 13, wherein the substance for solubilizing the probe is a cationic surfactant.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the probe medium further comprises a solvent in which the probe is soluble.

18. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein an amount of the substance for solubilizing the probe in the organic solvent is adjusted within a range in which white turbidity of the probe medium can be observed.